

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 126989  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY S/S-O:AWOTTO

APPROVED BY S/S-O:AWOTTO

-----022048Z 042761 /62

O 021638Z JUN 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 126989

NODIS

FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI ONLY

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y

FOL RPT PARIS 16225 ACTION SECSTATE 2 JUN 77

S E C R E T PARIS 16225

NODIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y

E.O.11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR US VN

SUBJ: FLASH REPORT - US/SRV TALKS JUNE 2, 1977

1. MEETING LASTED THREE AND ONE-HALF HOURS. PHAN HIEN NOTED THAT THIS WAS FIRST TIME HIS GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN AT AMERICAN EMBASSY. MEETING WAS DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS. IN FIRST, PHAN HIEN REVIEWED EVENTS SINCE LAST MEETING, PARTICULARLY PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY CONGRESS, NIXON, KISSINGER, AND VANCE WHICH HAD BEEN UNHELPFUL.

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2. IN SECOND PART OF HIS OPENING PRESENTATION PHAN HIEN GAVE US A LIST OF 20 MORE AMERICAN MIA (INCLUDING 5 UNIDENTIFIED) WHOSE REMAINS WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN AN UNSPECIFIED BUT NOT TOO DISTANT TIME (VU HOANG LATER SUGGESTED ABOUT TWO MONTHS TO SIEVERTS PRIVATELY). HIEN THEN GAVE US A DRAFT OF A SUGGESTED JOINT COMMUNIQUE OR

AGREEMENT AND SAID THAT IT COULD BE SIGNED AND ISSUED EITHER IN THESE MEETINGS OR AT SOME FUTURE ROUND "IN PARIS OR ELSEWHERE." THE TEXT OF THIS DRAFT COMMUNIQUE CONTAINS UNACCEPTABLE LANGUAGE ON AID, REFERRING EVEN TO THE EXACT AMOUNTS USED IN THE NIXON TO PHAM VAN DONG LETTER OF FEB 1, 1973. IT ALSO PROPOSES THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AND HAS A PARAGRAPH ON MIA'S.

3. PHAN HIEN CLEARLY KNOWS THAT THE COMMUNIQUE, WHICH HE BROUGHT WITH HIM FROM HANOI, IS UNACCEPTABLE TO THE US. BUT HE APPARENTLY HOPES TO ENGAGE US IN A NEGOTIATION OVER THE AMOUNT OF AID.

4. IN ORDER TO INDICATE CLEARLY THAT SUCH DISCUSSION FALLS OUTSIDE THE LIMITS OF OUR INSTRUCTIONS AND THE MOOD OF CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PUBLIC, HOLBROOKE TOLD PHAN HIEN DURING BREAK THAT EVEN THE FACT OF THIS REQUEST FOR AID, SHOULD IT BECOME PUBLIC, WOULD HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON AMERICAN OPINION WHICH WOULD MORE THAN OFFSET FAVORABLE IMPACT OF RELEASE OF THE 20 NEW NAMES. HOLBROOKE ALSO TOLD HIEN FLATLY THAT IT WAS HIS OPINION THAT THIS CONGRESS WOULD NOT PERMIT ANY FORM OF DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO VIETNAM.

5. WE GAVE NO INFORMATION TO THE PRESS ABOUT TODAY'S MEETING, EXCEPT TO CONFIRM THAT WE WILL MEET AGAIN TOMORROW. AS DISCUSSED ALREADY WITH HODDING CARTER HERE, WE STILL PREFER NOT TO HAVE ANY FORMAL PRESS

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CONFERENCES ON EITHER SIDE TOMORROW. HOWEVER, THE FACT THAT HANOI HAS GIVEN US 20 MORE NAMES WILL PRESUMABLY BE MADE PUBLIC TOMORROW AT THE END OF THE MEETING. FACT AND CONTENTS OF THEIR DRAFT COMMUNIQUE SHOULD BE EXTREMELY CLOSELY HELD, AS IT WOULD PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE REACTION IF MADE PUBLIC.

6. AT TOMORROW'S MEETING WE PLAN TO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION FOR NEW MIA INFORMATION AND OUR HOPE THAT MORE WILL BE FORTHCOMING. WE WILL REITERATE OUR ESTABLISHED POSITION ON AID AND OUR PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. WE WILL AGREE IN PRINCIPLE ON A THIRD ROUND OF MEETINGS BUT WILL LEAVE DATE AND PLACE OPEN.

AMMON

UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Document Number:** 1977STATE126989  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** O:AWOTTO  
**Enclosure:** FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY  
**Executive Order:** X3  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009